

2/23/68

Dear Hal,

In his letter to me, Palmer gave these pages numbers: Flyleaf, foreword, lx, 33, 368, 386, 397, 403, 408, 415. I'm doubling up now, tending my wife, the house a little, packaging books, etc., so I'll have even less time to read for a while. Perhaps Jonn would like to do it if you cannot, or one of your crew. Eventually, I will.

Steve Burton phoned tonight. He is accompanying Howard to New Orleans. If Howard (Steve improvises names for him, like "Fat Swallow", "My Baby") does what he offered to do to me, he'll undertake some investigations for us. I have an uneasy feeling about him, like he is real smart and doing this to take attention from himself. He must say he was very cooperative, answered most of my questions fairly directly, didn't claim not to know the answers to too many. He corroborated some of the things Hall told me.

Hall is out of the hospital. Turner and Steve Jaffe went to see him. Turner should have, but he should have been a little less omniscient and a little more of a team player. His concept of working together is stealing everything he can. I had carefully left a man behind for just such an eventuality, a man who I had had with me each of the six-eight hours I spent with Hall. An intelligent man who knew what Hall had told me, what I had left behind to germinate, and a man who could have out a little hint in here or there. Oh, well. I left tapes behind that anyone else ~~xx~~ could have heard and gone forward from. I never pushed him, expecting to go back again before I left.

Anyway, unless someone louses it up, I've left it this way: both of the men who went to court to avoid going to New Orleans are now willing to go, after I spoke to them. The first is willing to go with Steve Burton, who I took with me. The second is willing to go to the airport and take a non-stop plane if Al Schwartz, the man I left as a contact, put him on it, and I am on the other end to meet him there. Hall also says he wants connecting rooms with mine in N.O.! Not bad for being squeezed in between the other things I went out for!

Before he left N.O., according to what Mumu told me by phone tonight, Kerry Thirnley told Mumu he would like to talk to me. That chapter is called, "Look Back With Regrets". I worked on Thornley, as you know, and in November told Clint Bolton to tell Thornley I thought he'd do well to talk to me or to go to N.O. and talk to Jim informally. I then also said he'd regret it if he didn't. That radicalright kook Bolton used this as a column in a wierd quarter paper he is on, taking the huffy letter he wrote Thornley as his column. Even then, he added his recommendation to mine. If a littlebit of this gets around, my doorway will be full!

Palmer just phoned. I remembered incorrectly. He did not send you a copy of the book. It is Robin Moore's "The Devil to Pay". Palmer thinks the Youngblood of this book may be Nancy Perrin's. He has an uncle who is an eminent Freudian psychiatrist who says the whole N.O. bit is typical of the paraneis of the homosexuals. Interesting.

Sincerely,